

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY
CAMDEN VICINAGE

SENTINEL INSURANCE COMPANY, LTD.,

Plaintiff,

-vs-

CONRAD J. BENEDETTO, individually and doing
business as THE LAW OFFICES OF CONRAD J.
BENEDETTO, and JOHN GROFF,

Defendants.

CONRAD J. BENEDETTO, THE LAW
OFFICES OF CONRAD J. BENEDETTO, and
JOHN GROFF,

Plaintiffs,

-vs-

SENTINEL INSURANCE COMPANY, LTD.,
JOHN DOES and ABC ENTITIES A-Z,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 19-cv-20142-RMB-AMD

Motion Return Date: September 8, 2020

[Document Electronically Filed]

DECLARATION OF
PATRICK D. BONNER JR.

Patrick D. Bonner Jr., pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, declares the following:

1. I am a member of Menz Bonner Komar & Koenigsberg LLP, counsel for Plaintiff Sentinel Insurance Company, Ltd. (“Sentinel”). I submit this declaration in support of Hartford’s motion for summary judgment against Defendants Conrad J. Benedetto (“Mr. Benedetto”), The Law Offices of Conrad J. Benedetto (“Benedetto Firm”), and John Groff (“Mr. Groff”) (collectively, the “Defendants”).

2. A true and correct copy of Sentinel's Complaint against Defendants filed on November 13, 2019 in the District Court of New Jersey is annexed hereto as Exhibit A. In this pleading, Sentinel seeks a declaratory judgment that Sentinel has no duty to defend or indemnify Defendants in connection with the Underlying Actions - *Brian Nunez v. The Law Offices of Conrad J. Benedetto, et al.*, Case No. CAM-L-003997-18 (N.J. Super. Ct., Camden Co.), and *John Doe v. The Law Offices of Conrad J. Benedetto, et al.*, Case No. CAM-L-004588-18 (N.J. Super. Ct., Camden Co.).

3. A true and copy of the Waivers of the Service of Summons for Benedetto, the Benedetto Firm and Mr. Groff, dated January 20, 2020, are annexed hereto as Exhibit B.

4. On December 14, 2019, Defendants filed a competing action against Sentinel in the Superior Court of the State of New Jersey, Law Division, Burlington County, docket number BUR-L-002611-19. Defendants' complaint seeks a declaration that Sentinel has a duty to defend and indemnify Defendants in connection with the Underlying Actions and also included causes of action seeking damages for breach of contract and bad faith. A true and correct copy of Defendants' Complaint is annexed hereto as Exhibit C.

5. A true and correct copy of Sentinel's January 15, 2020 Notice of Removal is annexed hereto as Exhibit D. Defendants' action was assigned civil action no. 20-cv-483.

6. On January 22, 2020, Sentinel filed its Answer and Separate Defenses to Defendants' Complaint. A true and correct copy of Sentinel's Answer and Separate Defenses is attached hereto as Exhibit E.

7. An Order consolidating Civil No. 19-20142 and Civil No. 20-483 for all purposes under Case No. 1:19-cv-20142 (RMB/AMD), dated February 18, 2020, is annexed hereto as Exhibit F.

8. On June 23, 2020, Mr. Benedetto and the Benedetto Firm filed an Answer to Sentinel's Complaint. A true and correct copy of the Answer is attached hereto as Exhibit G.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on August 7, 2020.

/s/ Patrick D. Bonner Jr.
PATRICK D. BONNER JR.